



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5545

LCO No. 2010

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Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Security

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING SIMULCASTING FACILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 12-571a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 (a) The Division of Special Revenue and the Gaming Policy Board
4 shall not operate or authorize the operation of more than eighteen off-
5 track betting branch facilities, except that the division and the board
6 may operate or authorize the operation of any off-track betting facility
7 approved prior to December 31, 1986, by the legislative body of a
8 municipality in accordance with subsection (a) of section 12-572. Any
9 facility approved prior to December 31, 1986, shall be included within
10 the eighteen branch facilities authorized by this subsection.

11 (b) The eighteen off-track betting branch facilities authorized by
12 subsection (a) of this section may [include eight facilities which] have
13 screens for the simulcasting of off-track betting race programs or jai
14 alai games and other amenities including, but not limited to,
15 restaurants and concessions, provided, [on and after June 19, 1992,]
16 four of such facilities [shall] may be located in the town and city of

17 New Haven, the town and city of Bridgeport, the town of Windsor
18 Locks, and within the dog race track in the town of Plainfield. [and
19 within the fronton or dog race track in the town and city of
20 Bridgeport.] Authority to simulcast does not include any branch
21 facility located within a zone of protection negotiated between the
22 operator of the off-track betting system and any other pari-mutuel
23 betting facility. [Each such facility located within a fronton or a dog
24 race track shall be operated by the licensee authorized to operate the
25 off-track betting system in conjunction with the licensee of such
26 fronton or dog race track and all such facilities within a fronton or a
27 dog race track shall be operated in substantially the same manner.] The
28 location of each such facility shall be approved by the executive
29 director with the consent of the Gaming Policy Board and shall be
30 subject to the prior approval of the legislative body of the town in
31 which such facility is proposed to be located. The division shall report
32 annually to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
33 having cognizance of matters relating to legalized gambling on the
34 status of the establishment or improvement of the off-track betting
35 branch facility pursuant to this subsection.

36 (c) If an operator of an off-track betting facility equipped with
37 screens for simulcasting intends to simulcast at such facility dog racing
38 events or jai alai games, such operator (1) shall simulcast dog racing
39 events or jai alai games conducted by any association licensee which
40 offers such racing events or games for simulcasting provided such
41 operator obtains the written consent of such licensee and any other
42 licensee authorized to conduct the same activity located within forty
43 miles of such facility, and (2) may simulcast out-of-state dog racing
44 events or jai alai games when no such association licensee is
45 conducting such racing events or games provided such operator has
46 complied with the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

47 [(d) The division and board or a licensee authorized to operate the
48 off-track betting system may operate any off-track betting branch office
49 facilities not operated in the manner of the facilities operated under

50 subsection (b) of this section as facilities which have monitors for off-
 51 track betting information, bench seating and adequate public rest room
 52 facilities for patrons.]

53 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12-574 of the general statutes is
 54 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
 55 *October 1, 2006*):

56 (a) No person or business organization may conduct a meeting at
 57 which racing or the exhibition of jai alai is permitted for any stake,
 58 purse or reward or operate the off-track betting system unless such
 59 person or business organization is licensed as an association licensee
 60 by the board. Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes,
 61 the board shall license as an association licensee the simulcast facility
 62 in existence on December 31, 2005, in the town and city of Bridgeport,
 63 and such facility shall not be required to operate any racing dates. Any
 64 such licensee authorized to conduct a meeting or operate the off-track
 65 betting system shall indemnify and save harmless the state of
 66 Connecticut against any and all actions, claims, and demands of
 67 whatever kind or nature which the state may sustain or incur by
 68 reason or in consequence of issuing such license.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	12-571a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	12-574(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To increase from eight to eighteen the number of facilities authorized off-track betting branch facilities that may simulcast and to change the requirements for the Bridgeport simulcast facility.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]